

that matter? Of course it matters, because those people who come here spend around about \$3,000 in businesses and retail stores around here. Students trying to get home need to have paperwork processed in our Embassies overseas, and that cannot be done. Foreign exchange students want to come here to study. They cannot do that.

One Member of this body suggests that no one even noticed the shutdown and we ought to keep the Government partially closed. I say that is foolish. Whoever said that has not been out of the beltway long enough. Say that, that the Government shutdown does not mean anything, to Meals on Wheels. What is Meals on Wheels? Meals on Wheels is people who are shut-in's, and they are allowed to stay at their homes as a result of Meals on Wheels. If Meals on Wheels is shut down, these people are going to have to go into rest homes, extended care facilities, and cost the taxpayers even more. Meals on Wheels allows people their independence, their ability to stay at home. But for Meals on Wheels, our rest homes, our convalescent centers, our extended care facilities would be burdened even more than they are.

For someone who says we ought to keep it shut down, what about our Superfund cleanup sites? We have now Superfund cleanup sites that are being cleaned up. We just had a big celebration because the final Love Canal payment was made. We have 30 Superfund cleanup sites that are going to be shut down in the next 24 hours; shut down. That not only involves stopping the cleanup, it costs a lot more money to get them cranked up again. So people do care if the Government is shut down. They care about the thousands and thousands of people who cannot go to our national parks. They cannot go fishing, and small retail merchants at entrances to these parks are screaming for help. They depend on these national parks to earn a livelihood.

This shutdown has nothing to do with agreeing to a balanced budget. We could go back to the process of the appropriations bills which were not passed. We could pass blame on why they were not passed. The fact of the matter is they were not passed, and there is no reasonable, just cause for this Government shutdown and not allowing people to go to work. In fact, we are paying them anyway.

Agreeing to a balanced budget plan and allowing the Government to operate are two entirely separate issues. There is simply no linkage. There should be no linkage. Attempts to make one solely contingent upon the other is really a form of legislative terrorism. The Federal workers are being used as negotiating chips. In order for one side to be able to declare unconditional victory, these people are being used as pawns. This simply is not right. They are not part of the best equation leading to a balanced budget, and it ought not to stop them from going back to work.

What is the current impact of the shutdown?

Six hundred thousand elderly Americans may lose their Meals on Wheels. That is a large number of people.

States have lost \$74 million in grants for child protection programs. Child protection programs, this is not welfare. These moneys are used to deal with more than 2½ million cases of child maltreatment each year.

Eleven States have exhausted their funding for unemployment insurance.

The Federal Housing Administration is unable to process 2,500 home loans and refinancing each day of the shutdown. There are 2,500 each day.

More than 1,000 workplace safety complaints have gone unanswered. We receive an average of about 240 calls each day to EPA's hotline for drinking water contamination information. We have people who are complaining that their water is contaminated. These are calls going unanswered.

Five other hotlines which receive thousands of calls each month are shut down, depriving the public of potentially critical information on pesticides, toxic substances, asbestos in schools, and other public health information.

Three hundred and eighty-three thousand people each day are being denied access to our national parks—almost 400,000 people a day. And some say it does not matter?

As Senator DOLE said yesterday—enough is enough. It is time to end this folly and stand up to this bully. A few jabs and a left hook would end them real quick.

This, Mr. President, should end immediately. The bully should be put down, and put down quickly.

Mr. WARNER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia is recognized.

THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, before the distinguished Senator departs the floor, I would like to say how much I personally appreciate his remarks regarding the Republican leader, Mr. DOLE. I was with Mr. DOLE throughout the meeting of 2½ hours yesterday, along with the Speaker, Mr. GINGRICH, Senator DOMENICI, House Budget Chairman KASICH, House Majority Leader DICK ARMEY, and others. In my judgment, he has been a pillar of strength throughout.

I also extend my remarks to the distinguished Democrat leader who has worked with Senator DOLE here in the last 48 hours, and many Members on both sides.

I think the Senate should stand with great pride as to how it has met this tragic shutdown in the Federal Government and the ripple effect throughout the private sector, so that it just is not the Government employees.

I will also address other matters from my constituents here momentarily. But I wish to thank the Senator

from Nevada for his remarks about our distinguished leader.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, this morning in my office Congressman WOLF, Congressman DAVIS, and Congresswoman MORELLA joined—and we now have met several times a day—to try to provide our respective leadership here in the Senate and in the House, together with our colleagues from Maryland.

I note the presence of the junior Senator from Maryland on the floor, as well as yesterday the senior Senator from Maryland, and Senator ROTH also.

We worked here as a group because the greater metropolitan area of Washington is probably the most severely affected as a consequence of this Government shutdown. Not only is there a large number of employees—perhaps as high as a half million—who are working at their jobs without pay, but there are some 260,000 to 280,000 who are furloughed and not able to report to their offices for various reasons.

I also wish to mention that at 1 o'clock, and I shall be departing shortly to join Members of Congress, Congressman DAVIS, Congressman FRANK WOLF, and Congresswoman CONNIE MORELLA, and others, to meet with the various members of the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund. This is under the leadership of Jerry Shaw, a nationally known individual with Federal employees, currently the counsel for the Senior Executive Association.

We are coming together, the Members of Congress, to encourage others—those who can—who will pledge some personal financial support for Federal employees receiving short paychecks. This is becoming a crisis.

I commend the Federal Employee Education Assistance Fund for doing this. This is a private member of the Combined Federal Campaign assisting Federal employees in dire need during the shutdown with interest-free loans for rent, mortgage, utilities, and food. The charity is in danger of running out of funds without additional contributions.

I am happy to join with others to try to make our contributions to help them.

Attending this 1 o'clock meeting will be representatives from the Federal employee organizations represented on the board of directors. Among them include the Senior Executive Association, the National Treasury Employees Union, the Federal Managers Association, the National Federation of Federal Employees, and the Social Security Managers Association.

THE BUDGET

Mr. WARNER. Now, Mr. President, I would like to make reference again to the problems here. They are all well